CIVIL SERVICE REFORM

Breaking Ground for the New Political Departure.

REPORT OF A BUREAU CHIEF.

Secretary Schurz's Work in the Interior Department.

THE ROMANCE OF PATENTS.

United States.

History of the Inventive Genius of the

WASHINGTON, March 28, 1877.

Now that Secretary Schurz proposes to make the Interior Department a starting point in civil service reform the present condition of the department, as detailed by the various heads of bureaus, becomes

The first and perhaps the most important document in relation to the condition of the department has been bmitted to the Secretary by General Spear, the Commissioner of Patents. It gives an interesting tory of that important branch of the public service ition to representing its condition the Commissioner makes some practical suggestions upon civil GROWTH OF THE PATENT BUSINESS

A perusal of General Spear's letter will demonstrate now rapidly the patent business has developed in this country, and to what unexpected proportions it has clerk in the State Department, and that single person had rarely enough to do in performing his uties to busy himself a third of each day. In 1803 Mr. Jefferson appointed Dr. Thornton to issue the patents, and the latter called himself the Superintendent of the Patent Office. This official con tinued the autocrat of the patent business till his death. the Patent Bureau, from 1790 to 1793, there were forty-seven patents issued, the first being that of muel Hopkins, bearing date the 17th of July, 1790, for "making pot and pearl ashes," and the second was for the manufacture of candles. From 1793 to 1828 ere were 5,380 patents issued, a fee of \$30 being charged in each case, which brought the government a revenue of \$157,110. The highest number of patents ssued in any one year provious to 1828 was 331, while more than that number are now issued almost every reck. The receipts from patents from the beginning of the government to 1828 were \$157 110. the expenditures, \$62,154 62. In 1831 the Secretary of State, Edward Livingston, called the attention of Congress t the fact that the law permitted the employment of only three clerks to conduct the patent business, and that there was turned into the Treasury as the result of their labors more than \$10,000 each year over and above all expenses. The issue of patents increased gradually each year, necessitating more room than could be given to that business in the State Departnent and the models, drawings, &c., on hand, were removed to the old City Hall. In 1836 they were entirely destroyed by fire, and in that year Congress reized the Patent Office and Henry L. Elisworth, of Connecticut, was appointed Commissioner of Patents, and discharged the duties of the office until 1846. After the reorganization the applications for patents very rapidly increased, ln 1849 there were \$216,488 83 to the credit of the patent fund in the Treasury; the entire expenses in that year being \$77,716 44. The development of the patent business in the years immediately following 1849 was so great that the proposition to erect a Patent Office building was favorably considered, and a portion of the surplus fund in the Treasury to the credit of the patent service was appropriated for that purpose. The building at present occupied by the Interior Department was constructed for a Patent Office almost entirely from the earnings of that office.

To undertake to follow the growth of the patent business, giving in detail each year's results, would me and space, but a fair idea of its extent may be gleaned from the fact that over 190,000 patents the office now aggregate close upon \$1,000,000 per annum. Almost an army of employés are required to creasing rapidly. For many years the Commissioner of Patents exercised almost unlimited control in the granting and extension of patents. Naturally, as the values of patents became great, this power led to cor-ruption which has never yet been eradicated, althoug h ruption which has never yet been cradicated, althoug he Congress has materially curtailed the powers of the Commissioner. The Patent Office is brought into daily intercourse with a greater number of people than any other bureau or department in Washington, and its model room, containing working models of nearly every machine and contrivance known to human ingenuity, is a field of invastigation for thousands of curtosity hunters and scientists each week.

The LETTER OF GENERAL SPEAR.

The letter of General Spear is as follows:—

The letter of General Spear is as follows:—

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE, March 27, 1877.

Hon. Carl Schurz, Secretary of the Interior:—

Sir-In accordance with your order of the 20th inst. I have the honor to submit the following statements:—Upon reflection I find that in this office a consideration of the organization if independent of the secretary of their cuployment. That force consists of two distinct classes—the examining and the clerical, with the usual sauxiliaries of laborers and messengers.

The examining corps consists of twenty two principal examiners, each having a first, second and third assistant; of an examiner of interferences and an examiner of trade marks. Each principal examiner has charge of a class relating to some one or more kindred subjects matter. Each one of these principal examiner has charge of a class relating to some one or more kindred subjects matter. Each one of these principal examiners with the sid of his assistants, examines all applications in his class as to patentability, decides all questions relating thereto, both of law and fact. His favorable decision is practically final, and the patont issues upon his order. In case of his adverse decision appeal may be taken to the Board of Examiners—in-Chief. This Board consists of three squai members, appointed by the President and confirmed by the sense. Their isgual duty is to hear appeals from ad-

rity of invention.

The examiner of trade marks receives all applications of trade marks and labels and considers the propriety of egistering such matters. He acts under the supervision of the Commissioner and appeals from him are taken to the formulasioner in person.

In addition to the assistant examiners who aid the princial examiners in the adjudication of the claims of appliants for patents each examiner has a clerk who assist he correspondence and in the care of the files and records for his roces.

as may be necessity to refresh his memory and relative into decide as to the novelly of the invention presented in the application.

The law requires him, if he reject, to state explicitly the reasons of his rejection. The applicant or his attorney may then amend, present arguments if he thinks best, and the case must be reheard. The second decision of the examiner may be final and from that appeal may be taken as hereinbelore stated. This system brines inventors and their attorneys directly and constantly into contact with the office. Although, strictly speaking, no money interest is here concerned the excerness of pursuit is mone the less on that account. The rights sought are those of property, that is to asy, the exclusive use of a supposed valuable invention and added thereto is often the pride of invention. Added to this is the fact, that many attorneys prosecute cases for loss continuent upon success in procurting the patent. The result is an unremitted pressure for patents. The advantage of this is that the other underscending and interested the continuent of the part of the examining corps, in order to goard the rights of the public, and refuse patents not justified by the law. Changes in the head of the office and gradual changes in the personnel of the examining corps have caused changes in the resultion of those two forces,

my judgment, incompetent for the positions to some have been reduced in grade or discharged me into office. In respect to others I propose to commendations. Many of the older, and most of mining corps appointed since 1899, are able an officers. With respect to them I have but few modations to make. In the performance of their executive and judicial duties they need only the table faith of their accountry and proposed to the proposed to the case of their executive and judicial duties they need only the table of their case.

he clevation. By carefully silting out the income, the consider that the office may be benefited, tentive I am confident that the office may be benefited, tentive I am confident that the office may be benefited, both by the addition of better element and by better services from those who are retained.

In respect to reductions, I am of the opinion that the examining corps should be kept up to the maximum allowed by law. The clerical force, I think, may be reduced when improved in the manner heretofore indicated and when the method of carrying on the clerical business is changed, as I shall hereinafter suggest.

In this connection I desire to consider the sixth topic of the circular. The method of conducting the receipt of applications, examination of cases and issue of patents appears to have been carefully thought out at a very early period in the history of the office. It works well, is as simple as is consistent with the proper safeguards and checks the consistent with the proper safeguards and checks the desired of the consistent with the proper safeguards and checks the consistent with the proper safeguards and checks the consistent with the proper safeguards and checks the consistent with the proper safeguards.

in corps is equally applicable to promotions in the need of going far outside the business of the office matter for examination in order to test the fitness cants for appointments. I have found by an expensarly three years that an examination in matter to official business, or negration. nearly three years that an examination in matters intimately ing to official basiness, or pertaining to matters intimately connected therewith, is all that is required, not only to test the knowledge of an applicant but the quality of his mind and his mental habits. Respectfully submitted. ELLIS SPEAR.

THE RELEASE OF TWEED.

MR. TOWNSEND'S OFFER NOT YET SUBMITTED-A REPORTED MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN

MR. PECKHAM AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. William M. Tweed is still in Ludlow Street Jail, and ain sum to the county on condition that he shall be released is still nuder consideration by him ter gentleman stated last night that he expected to submit the document to the consideration of the proseution. Mr. Townsend states that he will present the document privately, and the Attorney General or his iense. Speculation as to the matter of the propose compromise is rife among politicians, and various offered to pay into the coffers of the county a certain sum, on condition that he shall not be prosecuted civily or criminally, and that the offer has been accepted, provided that upon examination the authorities shall find the sum offered to constitute all, or at least the greater portion of, the "Bosa" estate. Those who incline to this way of thinking contend that the document now being prepared by Mr. Townsend and his client is consequently a schedule of the property owned by the latter, and the estimated value of each parcel. If this be true, Mr. Peckham, on behalf of the people, would probably think it necessary to investigate the matter thoroughly, and thus a great deal of time would be consumed before the "Boss" could be released. However this may be, there is a strong belief in the circles best informed on the subject that the captive will be ireed in a few days. Mr. William A. Beach and Mr. John McKeou, counsel for Peter B. Sweeny, assert positively that no efforts have been made looking to a compromise of the suit to recover \$7,000,000 from their client. Rumor, however, has it that the Autorney General has been given to understand that propositions will be made looking to the settlement of the suits against Sweeny and E. A. Woodward as well as Tweed. Mr. Townsend is counsel for the two last named prisoners, and it is probable that in the plan for the release of Tweed his old colleague Woodward is not forgotten.

THE ATTORNET GENERAL AND MR. PECKHAM.

The extraordinary reticence of Mr. Wheeler H. civilly or criminally, and that the offer has been ac

Woodward is not forgotien.

The ATTORNY GENERAL AND MR. PECKHAM.

The extraordinary reticence of Mr. Wheeler H. Peckham in reference to the Ring saits has led to a great deal of conjecture and gossip. It is asserted that Attorney General Fairchild has taken the matter entirely out of his hands, and is now negotiating for the release of the prisoners without Mr. Peckham's knowledge. The Attorney General, it is alleged, is enraged at the entire Peckham lamily on account of an attack made upon him by Kutus Peckham, of Albany, in a court in this city, in December last. For this reason, it is said, Mr. Fairchild has excluded Wheeler H. from his confidence, and has been conducting negotiations without his advice for nearly three months.

District Attorney Phelps smiled incredulously when spoken to concerning these rumors. He could give no information concerning the proposed compromise. Solar as he knew no proposition had yet been submitted to the presecution by Mr. Townsend, and he thought likely it one had been made he would be informed of it.

was presumed to be in relation to the "ring" litigations.

"Has anything definite been done by you in this case of Tweed?" Mr. Fairchild was asked.

"Nothing at all. The case is just as far from settlement as ever."

"Have any propositions for settlement been submitted by Tweed or his counsel?"

"No regular propositions have been formulated. Of course Tweed is anxious to get out of his troubles, but we must see to it that the interests of the people are fully protected in the recovery of all that is possible under the circumstances."

"Inen you say that nothing can be finally accomplished in the way of Tweed's release for several weeks?"

"I cannot say that, as I do not know what may arise in the meanwhile. It might be several weeks and it

in the meanwhile. It might be several weeks and it might be several days. I can answer you however, that nothing of a definite character has yet been ac-complished."
"You absolutely control the legal proceedings in the case?"

"You absolutely control the legal proceedings in the case?"
"I do. The consent of the Attorney General is requisite to secure Tweed's release."
"Mr. Peakham is your subordinate then? He acts under your directions?"
"Well, he has appeared in the Ring suits. Of course nothing can be conducted without the Attorney General's sanction."
"Tweed would like to get out for as small an amount as possible?"

as possible?"
"I think so. That is natural, but we must exact the fullest compensation within our reach for the wrongs

"That is all can be said about the standing of the case

MUNICIPAL REFORM.

A special meeting of the Board of Managers of the New York Produce Exchange was held yesterday, at which the following action was taken with reference to the proposed charter amendments, now under consideration by the State Legislature:—

whereas these amendments must be approved by two ancessive Legislatures and one vote of the people; and whereas the failure of the present Legislature to approve would pestpone for three years, if it did not deteat, the scheme; therefore.

Resolved, That this Board respectfully urges the Representatives and Senators from this city and the Mate Legislature to end their earnest efforts to secure the passage of the constitutional amendments recommended by the Commission on Municipal Government in their report, recently submitted to the Legislature.

GILBERT L. WHITING TO BE ADMITTED TO BAIL IN TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS.

Justice McCue, of the Brooklyn City Court, yester-day afternoon granted a motion to admit Gilbert L. Whiting, the defaulting chief bookkeeper of the Brooklyn Bank, to bail in the sum or \$10,000, requiring three sureties. Brothers of the accused will be two of the sureties, but the third one is not yet known. When the application was made Mr. Messinger, the President of the bank, and Mr. Cornell, one of the directors, were present and made no objection. Mr. Messinger said he was satisfied that Mr. Whiting had returned every cent that he took from the bank. To a first proporter Mr. Messinger said that it was impossible for him, in the position in which he found himself, to say much at present in regard to the report implicating Mr. Hall, the paying teller, with Mr. Whiting. Mr. Hall had been notified about a month since that he would not be wanted but a short time longer, and he has not been in the bank's employ for a day or two. Mr. Hall, he further said, was a single man, and not related in any way to Mr. George A. Thorne, the former president of the bank.

Poince Commissioner Pyburn stated yesterday that when Mr. Whiting was first arrested and asked what he did with the missing £10,000, he replied that he would not say anything on the subject, as it might implicate another person, and this he did not wish to do. When Mr. Pyburn called Commissioner Jourdan's attention to what Mr. Whiting had said the prisoner said that he did not intend saying any such thing.

Chief of Police Campbell, nearing of the rumor concerning Mr. Hall, sent Detective Corwin to the bank to see if it were true. Mr. Corwin returned with the information that the bank officials refused to say anything in relation to the defalcation, except that the services of the Police Department were not needed. two of the sureties, but the third one is not yet

Officers of the Special Treasury Agent in this city followed an express wagon yesterday carrying a case obtained from the steamer City of Chester to Joseph Jones, clothing store, No. 38 West Thirtieth street. The Jones, clothing store, No. 35 West Thirtieth street. The box, not being on the manifest and having no permit for delivery from the Custom House inspector in charge of the vessel, the officers seized it and torned it into the seizure room. On opening the same it was found to contain eight full suits of fine appring clothing, done up in four bundles. Each package was marked with the name of prominent Broad atrect and Broadway brokers and merchants, who will be desarred by this embargo from airing their new suits on Fifth avenue on Easter Sunday.

OUR COMPLAINT BOOK.

BASTER SUNDAY OPERA BOUFFE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD Among the numerous advertisements in your issue poars the following:-"Easter Sunday evening, April 1, gala night," from which it would appear that on Sunday next the Aimée troupe proposes to give an un-usually attractive representation of opera boufe. New York is, no doubt, quite a cosmopolitan city, but I doubt if it has yet oecome so thoroughly Parisan that its inhabitants desire the Sabbath to be ignored by the opening of the theatres on that day. Moreover, is it not contrary to the law? INQUIRER.

POSTAL DELAYS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BERALD :-I mail letters here on the Erie Railroad postal car and it leaves at five minutes past one P. M., and arrives in New York at half-past six A. M. on the day following; yet that letter is not delivered at its destina-tion, in Thirty-fourth street and Broadway, until two P. M., taking seven hours to travel from the general office to Thirty-fourth street. Can this not be remo-died? W. D. W.

DUNKIRK, N. Y., March 26, 1877.

DANGEROUS CHURCH GALLERIES TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD :--

I deem it a duty to ask the proper authorities to se other dreadful sacrifice of human life. I have refer ence to the doors leading to the galleries of the St ence to the doors leading to the galleries of the Si Matthew's Church, corner of Broome and Elizabet streets, which are only about four feet wide, allowin only one person to get out at a time. I need not men tion the danger attending a panie in the galleries o that building. It is apparent to all acquainted with the doors—one on each side of the gallery—thist the; are wholly insufficient. I hope that this will be sufficient and that means will be taken immediately to remedy what might prove the cause of a terrible los of life.

BOOKKEEPERS' SALARIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BERALD:-I hear of a bookkeeper "making off" I always have to this city who can hardly keep soul and body together I am personally acquainted with a head bookkeeper; one of our city banks (State Bank) who is workin often nights at the immense salary of \$12 per week Remember, 0 ye directors who live sumptuously, the though your accounts may show a bilance here, they is another account to be settled hereafter! Will thooks balance there,

oooks balance there?
ONE WHO HAS BEEN THERE.

PRICES OF GROCERIES.

In your issue of the 19th inst. "Co-operation" his the nail on the head. The extertion of grocers up town and out of town is something that calls for a remedy, and I, for one, will gladly co-operate in any feasible plan such as he suggests. Let us hear from him where he can be seen, and something may come of his suggestion. I, for one, "am willin" to take a hand in.

A BRAVE WOMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD :-I have always given our police due credit as orna ments to the city, but I had supposed heretofore that they had duties to perform also. On Saturday, at down Broadway in an open carriage. Saw a newsboy pick a lady's pocket. Ordered my driver to turn about. He could not do so for the press of vehicles. At the corner he turned to the right, blockvehicles. At the corner he turned to the right, blocking the cross-walk, when I told half a dozen gentlemen of it, and pointed out the boys—there were three of them together—then running across the street, and within four yards of them, but they took no notice of it more than to look curiously at the flying rascals. Turning again into Broadway, we saw the boys—who had gone to the left—half-way down the block looking engerly at the contents of the pocketbook, and no doubt dividing the spoils. This was at Twenty-first street. We saw no policeman till we reached Filteenth sirect, and he was so wrapped up in the contemplation of his boots that it was impossible to attract his attention. We then concluded to go to Headquarters, as it was not much out of our way, but we saw another policeman in Bleecker street, near Broadway. I thought he might give information at headquarters, and save us the trouble. Told him so. After relating the circumstance and asking what could be done, he said, "We can't do nothin', for ther's no knowin' where the boys is now!" "But," said i, "it is not six minutes since it happened, and that neighborhood is not so througed that it would be impossible to find three newsboys together." He gave us no answer and we drove on.

ONLY A WOMAN.

HUNTER'S POINT AND ITS ENVIRONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD :-Can it be possible that a great city like this is to be subject to the terrible nursance caused by the coal oil refineries at Hunter's Point, as well as other disease means of compelling them to remove beyond the city means of compelling them to remove beyond the city limits? Every breeze that is wafted over the city from this locality is impregnated with disease and is spreading its terrible and baseoung influence from this place. It may reasonably be supposed that many of the diseases caused by malaria can be traced to this source. The Hariem flats of last summer were a mere circumstance when compared with the Hunter's Point nuisance. And this is not all; in certain localities it depreciates the value of property. There has never been a time when there was so much sickness in the city, caused by malaria; and there never has been a time when the stench from Hunter's Point was so strong as at present.

CAPTAIN WILLIAMS IN A NEW BOLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD :-About midnight a few evenings since, while at Parker's restaurant, Sixth avenue, Police Captain Williams was entertaining a few kindred spirits with an exhibition of an obscene engraving, which he said he had taken from a prisoner at his station house. Just then five gentlemen entered the saloon, one of whom had previously incurred the displeasure of the Captain. On presenting themselves and before having given any order, Captain Williams, in loud and authorizant to the captain that he barkeaper to "Sell no more liquor over the bar." The obnoxious individual informed the Captain that he only came for a cigar, as he was not drinking, and asked Mr. Parker if he could have a cigar, who replied. "Certainly you can have a cigar." The remainder of the party recired from the saloon and were not waited upon. The inference is that Parker owns the cigar stand and Captain Williams runs the bar. The above is as true as GOSPEL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD :-Your "Complaint Book" has done good. Can it clear

away the smoke in the Hamilton lerry house at six P. M.? The Board of Health should see to that vile nuisance of an almost air-tight ferry house packed with people and a third of them smoking old filthy pipes, to say nothing of cheap cigars. Wait in that poisoned atmosphere five minutes and then stand on deck and you can account for the prevalence of bronchitis and kindred diseases. What good are "No smoking allowed" posted around the house, when not one foul pipe or mean cigarts ordered out? The Union Ferry Company is responsible for this outrage on a travelling public.

T. S. S.

I. C. J. Fabish states that the contractor building the sewer in Forty-second street uses a compressed air away. There is also great danger about the blasting

Street Cleaning Department, and adds that the ashes and garbage of the blocks on Thirty-second and Thirty-

and garbage of the blocks on Thirty-second and Thirty-third streets, between Seventh and Eighth avenues, has been allowed to accumulate all winter. When spoken to on the subject the police are insoient.

"Sympathizer" writes that a milk dealer in East Forty-fith street, between Second and Third avenues, creates a disturbance in the neighborhood every morning, about three or four o'clock A. M., by banging his cans together.

Samuel Livingstone corroborates a previous complaint about the Mott street rowdies, and states that as he let his cat out of the door one of these ruffains killed the snimal and broke both her hind legs.

"One Who Has Been Ducked" asks that the attention of the Board of Rubie Works be called to the condition of the leader of the fire house, corner Chambers and Centre streets. No one can pass it without being ducked, as if a hose was turned an him, as the pipe has three or four holes in it which play on the sidewalk continually while it rains.

"Citizen" sends a postal card to say that on Forty-fith street, between Sixth avenue and Broadway, there has been a long line of barrels and ash cans standing unemptied since last Priday night. Yesterday he sent a cart and at his own expense had his garbage and ashes emptied.

"A Resident of Sixty-fourth Street" asks why are

ing unemptied since last Friday night. Yesterday he sent a cart and at his own expense had his garbage and ashes emptied.

"A Resident of Sixty-fourth Street" asks why are the sheep allowed to pass through Sixty-fourth street on their way to and from Central Park? They come through Sixty-fifth street and Fourth avenue, then cross into Sixty-fourth street. Why not go through the some less inhabited street, or else go through the streets at night time?

"A Reader of the Complaint Book" inquires how long is fith allowed to remain in the streets after being scraped into piles ready for carting away? Greenwich street, in the vicinity of Cortlandt street, is a disgrace to any civilized city. The scavengers came along last Friday, scraped up the ashes, garbage, dead cats and rats that have been accumulating or the last two months, and Sunday several carts marked P. D. were going to and fro about one-quarter fuil. The heavy rains for the last two days have washed and scattered the scrapings so that it will have to be all done over again.

"Pick It Up" calls attention to the fact that in Monroe street, corner of Pike street, toward Market street, there are three, sometimes four large double trucks standing in front of private dwellings and are used by men for urinal purposes.

A MOTHER'S APPEAL.

The Problem Justice Bixby Found So Hard to Solve.

FILIAL LOVE AS A CONQUEROR.

Disturbances Growing Out of the Cortissoz Family Wretchedness.

At the end of other business in the Fifty-seventh Street Court yesterday, and as the Judge was about to leave for the day, a party of four persons-a man, a woman and two children—came in, and the examina-tion of the different stories given by the first two claimed the individual attention of the Judge for some hour and a half. A police officer appeared also on the E. Cortissoz had been guilty of disorderly conduct, each striving to take away from the other the two and boy cling to their mother and cry to be left with her. The lady had gone to No. 319 Forty-seventh street, where the father lived, to see them, and a quarrel had ensued, in which Mrs. Cortisson's clothes

A MOTHER SEEKS HER CHILDREN. Henrietta Cortissoz told the following story :- "I am about thirty-two years of age. I was born in Charleston, S. C. The man present is my husband. He does not now live with me, but lives with another, whom he pretends to have married, although he has never been divorced from me, and they have a boy aged seven months, their offspring. I once was foolish, but only once. I love my children and they love me. I them, and have given them a mother's care and deve tion, and intend to do so if they are only allowed to remain with me. The father, who married me under false pretences, will not support me and his chil-dren. They do not want to go to him. They are badly treated by the lady who now reigns in my place in my husband's affection. I am of a respectable family in the South. My friends are gentlemen and ladies highly respected and well known in South Carolina and elsewhere. Mr. Cortissoz and myself were married some fifteen years. I and my children have been together most of that time. Once they were placed in a lady's charge in Brooklyn, and I visited them fre-quently. Then they and I went to San Francisco, and later on I placed them with their aunt in South Carolina, where they stayed for some time. I want my children to stay with me, Judge. For them I would do anything. I would work as a servant; any mental service would I only too gladly give to have my little ones with me. I am highly connected and a lady, but

ession of my own." Mrs. Cortissoz is of medium height, dark-eyed and quite pretty. What is written above was told to the magistrate in a nervous way, and it was evident the narrator had seen bright days, had mixed in good society and had been a pleasing conversationalist, THE HUSBAND SPEAKS.

The husband during the time Mrs. Cortissoz was speaking had thrown off the cloak that covered his shoulders, had placed his noticeable hat on the bench and was preparing for the coming effort. He is of the average height, is dark featured, speaks rapidly and in flashed florce glaces at the first speaker.

"Judge," he said, "I am a native of St. Thomas, and am forty-two years of age. I am a bookbinder by trade am forty-two years of age. I am a bookbinder by trade and a teacher"—he did not say of what—"considerably known, and every one who has made my acquaintance respects me and will speak well of me. I have regained possession of my children, after years of search. The mother—that woman there—has kept them away from me, hidden them where even a lather's love could not find them, and has not been nor is she a proper guardian for them. I have never been divorced from her, but am married again, not thereby committing wrong, since she who was once my wife proved to be a vile woman and unworthy of my love. The poor little boy and girl have been cruelly treated by her. Once she placed them in charge of a negrees in Brooklyn upon whose charty the children lived till turned away. Then they were in San Francisco, where the mother disgraced me, herself and them, and compelled me to fly from that city, one of the innocents under each arm. Once more were they in Charleston, where word came to me of neglect and I sent for them and brought them here, and now she again seeks to possess them. She is a thoroughly wicked woman. She has had many lovers at differ places. Her neglect has resulted in injuring the healt of both our children. This common woman, whom once I honored as my wile, has been living at different places, where I cannot exactly state, but she once resided in Fourteenth street, and inquiry made by me revealed the lact that the lady of the nouse had been annoyed by the constant ringing of the atreet bell and the asking for that woman by the names of Hoexier, Curtis, &c. Now, Judge, I appeal to you once more. I offer to make my children happy. I am ready to afford them medical assistance; they will have a good home; they will receive the care of my present wife, a highly educated and respectable lady, as respectable as that woman there is lost and abandoned. And are they to be taken from me, earning sufficient for their they to be taken from me, earning sufficient for their and a teacher"-he did not say of what-"considerably

afford them medical assistance; they will have a good home; they will receive the care of my present wife, a highly educated and respectable lady, as respectable as that woman there is lost and abandoned. And are they to be taken from me, earning sufficient for their proper support, and given to that abandoned person, who leads a wicked life. God knows, to be brought up to follow in her lootsteps? Save the girl from a life of shame; look to the moral welfare of my boy, and do not decide against me."

The husband spoke carnestly but coldly, while the mother told her story with lears running down her cheeks, her lips quivering and her frame shaken.

ONLY TEX AND RIGHT.

During this time the children had been whispering to each other and watching the proceedings anxiously. Their oyes constantly wandered toward their mother, and they looked as it they longed to fly to her. The lift was as pretty as a picture, but heriter she nor her brother had any cloaks about them, nor did either of them wear any covering on their heads. She was neatly clothed, had bright eyes, rosy checks, and both were quite intelligent. The boy's lace, pale and thin, was half hidden by a scarl which was wrapped about his head, but his eyes were sparkling with excitement. Little Josephine is ten years old, and Alfred, her brother, only eight.

JUDGE BIXBY HEARS ALL SIDES.

Judge BixBy decided to hear the little ones' stories, so two chairs were placed on the witness stand and Jose and Alfred mounted them. coming face to face with the interested magistrate. Togother they told of their mamma and papa and of the scenes their little selves had passed through. Josie was born in San Francisco and Alfred in Charleston. They toth loved their mamma, and wanted to stay with her. They did not wish to go to their father. They had been in Williamsburg, and then their mother visited them every day. They had been to their aunt, in Charleston, and had hived happily there, but they did not. The Judge asked what the second Mrs. Cortissos and continued them. They

she is now leading snything but an irreproachable life."

THE PUZZLED MAGISTRATE.

The children were crying bitterly and appealing to their mother to come to them, their sobs filling the court room, and lears coursing down their checks. The mother holly denied many of the charges against her. She honestly avowed she once had fallen, but, she asked, had not the husband, when he sought the companionship of another than she, his undivorced wife, been as guilty as she when she forgot her duty, and if he could reform why not she?

Judge Bixby—But I am not sure you are living well now. You have no means of support. How do you cat, drink and clothe yourself?

Mrs. Cortissoz—I have friends who knew me and my family. They are rich. They knew I stood well at home and that I am a lady. I do not call my husband natues. I am too well educated to do that. I have stood his unmanly abuse, and even if I have to give up my children I shall do so without telling what I know to him. I am a mother, and as noth would work till death for my own; but as a mother I can, for my children, leave them for their good and die of a broken heart.

A DECISION THAT WAS RECONSIDERED.

Then the husband tried to explain his neglect of his

work till death for my own; but as a mother I can, for my children, leave them for their good and die of a broken heart.

A DECISION THAT WAS RECONSIDERED.

Then the husband tried to explain his neglect of his children by telling that they had been hidden from him, and again asked the Judge to save the daughter from the road to ruin while yet it lay in his power. He spoke of how well he would treat the children, and said it was impossible for them to live in innocence long with the bad influence of the mother before them. Then the wile said she was able to look after the girl and boy, had money, and would have much more if she wished. She had rich relatives in Charleston, and they would have befriended her long since only they told her that when her husband could support anisother lady he could keep his wife and children. At last, most sorely puzzled, the Judge exclaimed to the officer, "Why did you bring this case in here?" and added, "Well, I'll let the lather have week. Madam, this is the best plan I can hit upon, go and counsel your children to reconcile themselves."

A CHILD'S EARNERT FLEADING.

The tears flowed down the mother's lace. She did as she was biduen. A scene of weeping followed. The children became hysterical. The lather's touch upon the lace brought no response. His manner was cold;

he recognized it himself, and did not seek to be demonstrative.

"I love you, papa, but I want my mamma. I shad not be happy with you; only with her will I be glad," the little girl cried.

Neither son nor daughter returned the advances of affection made by the lather. They quickly turned to the mother, dutching at her dress, the girl burving her head in the mother's bosom. Seized with a sudden impulse the little girl went up to the Judge and sought to change his decision. She begged him to leave her and her brother to their choice. Judge Bixby once more wavered, the lather was the loser, and the earnestness of innocent youth won the day.

A DECISION AT LAST.

The final decision of the judge was that the mother should have the children and keep them with her at No. 190 Eighth avenue, where she now resides, and which the officer had told the judge was a raspectable, house. The mother said she would become good for her children. She had sinued but once, and her sorrow had fully atoned for her erring; she would keep the children. She had sinued but once, and her sorrow had fully atoned for her erring; she would keep the children for two weeks; the lather could see them whenever and as often as he chose, and she would not leave the city till permitted to do so. Judge Bixby told Mr. Cortissoz to commence action in the Supreme Court, which could be done at once, and if his children should go to him why well and good; the Court would settle that.

Mr. Cortissoz wandered out after instructing the

should go to his way the could have content that.

Mr. Cortissoz wandered out after instructing the Judge as to the latter's duty, and wondering he could have decided as he had. The mother put an arm around each child, all three faces brightened, the storm was past, and the mother and her little ones went forth with faces beaming with delight.

AN UNNATURAL PARENT.

ROSE MASSIMENO TESTIFIES AGAINST HER FATHER, ANTONIO LEGN-THE PRISONER HELD TO AWAIT THE ACTION OF THE GRAND

In the First District Court room, Butler street Brooklyn, Justice Ferry presiding, yesterday, Mrs. Rose Massimeno appeared against her brutal father, who so murderously assaulted her because she told her fied that on the 16th of February last, about balf-past seven o'clock, her father came to her bedroom, and, taking hold of her arm, led her into the other re where he asked her if she would have him hanged.

"No, father," she said, "what should I want you hung for ?" he then said, "Why did you write a letter to John Kelly, your uncle, in New York?" she said witness called for her father-in-law; her father and uncle, Antonio and John Leon, ran behind the door, and when old Mr. Massimeno came they held the door against him to prevent his entrance; his arm caught in the door, and they then admitted against him to prevent his entrance; his arm caught in the door, and they then admitted him; witness then went to her bedroom, where her father, Antonio Leon, followed, and taking a revolver from his pocket, beat her with it on the head, and then fired three shots, but while the pistol was pointed toward her none of the builets took effect, although her skirts caught fire. Running into the front room she raised the window. Her father pursued her, dashed her on the floor and hit her on the head seven or eight times with the buil of the pistol; he also kicked her on the breast and back. She jumped up at last and said, "Oh, father, let me go away!" He said, "You are not dead yat; I have done this much, and intend to fluish you." He then commenced to beat her again on the head. She exclaimed, "Father, I am dying! I am dying!" and he then ran away, followed by his brother.

The cross-examination failed to shake the testimony of the young woman, who said she had no bad feeling against her lather; her father-in-law attempted to take the pistol from the prisoner; her hands were bruised and cut from trying to ward off the blows and to protect her hands and face; John Leon stood quietly by during the assault, with his hands in his pockets, doing nothing either to prevent the assault or to assist in it.

Dr. Meade, resident surgeon of the Long Island College Hospital, testified as to the condition in which the young woman was when taken to that institution and said that she never would have recovered were it not for her great vitality and wonderful power of recuperation.

Nicholas Massimeno, who is about seventy years of

I would willingly wash or hire myself out to have pos-

institution and said that she never would have recovered were it not for her great vitality and wonderful power of recuperation.

Nicholas Massimeno, who is about seventy years of age, testified to having witnessed the assault and corroborated the testimony of his daughter-in-law.

Her husband, John Massimeno, testified to having met Antonio and John Leon after leaving the house that morning and to subsequently finding Rose bleeding down stairs, and on going to his apartments discovering a broken pistol and knife there.

John Leon's testimony was to the effect that he called at the residence of his nicce in company with his brother, and the latter went into a room with Rose alone; ne heard a strug-le and two shots were fired; he ran in and saw his bother "persecuting" her.

The prisoner, Antonio Leon, testified that he asked Rose that morning, when he called, "If she had sent a letter to him; he then told her that she must not be so saucy to her father. He claimed that he had never been guilty of the crime alleged by her against him; he admitted having knocked her down on the floor and having beaten her; but said that he did not attempt to shoot her.

The pistol went off accidentally

Justical Ferry committed the prisoner te Raymond Street Juli to await the action of the Grand Jury.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD.

EXAMINATION OF MR. WISWALL-GOING INTO THE ANTECEDENTS OF THE GUILD.

The committee appointed to investigate the business management of St. John's Guild met last evening at the committee room of the Guild, in Fourteenth street There were present Messrs. James Scott, Edward Kemp, David Richmond and James Black, Mr. Cornell, the fith member of the committee, being unavoida

EXAMINING MR. WISWALL

Mr. Wiswall was requested to take the stand, and the following interrogeries were propounded to him

I believe, April 21, 1874, was there an organization in this city under a similar name and doing a similar

Mr. Wiswall-There was.

Mr. Scott-Was that organization sanctioned by any church corporation? Mr. Wiswall-It was; Trinity Church sanctioned it and Dr. Morgan Dix was ex-officio its Master; I was the

and Dr. Morgan Dix was ex-officio its Master; I was the
Master most of the time.
Mr. Scott—Were you paid for your services?
Mr. Wiswail—Yes, as a clergyman of Trinity parish,
but not as a Master of the Guild.
Mr. Scott—Is this society now in any way connected
with Trinity Church?
Mr. Wiswail—No; many of the members are but as a
society it is entirely distinct and separate from any
church corporation.
Mr. Scott—Why did the Guild separate from Trinity
church?

Mr. Scott—Why did the Guild separate from Trinity church?

Mr. Wiswall—The answer to that question is contained it the minutes of the several meetings of the Guild held about that time.

Here, at the request of Mr. Wiswall, Mr. Faure, of the Disbursing Committee, read the minutes of the meetings an so far as they related to the action of the Guild in separating from Trinity church and the resolution adopted at that time, which, after reciting that Mr. Wiswall had been for sixteen years a clergyman of the parish, and having been the founder of the Guild, and enjoying the love and confidence of the members of the Guild and of St. John Chapel, and being unjustly and summarily dismissed from his position, declared the continued confidence of the Guild in Mr. Wiswall, and emanded his continuance as Master. The memorial, which demanded his reinstatement in the parish, which was signed by 350 members of the church, was also read.

which was signed by 350 members of the church, was also read.

Mr. Scott then said that the object of making these inquiries was to inform the public of the antecedents of the Guid before it assumed its present position, and was not in any way personal to Mr. Wiswall.

Mr. Scott—You stated the other evening that there was a membership of about 2,500 persons. Now, as I believe, one of the objects of the Guid is to erect a Guid hall, in whose name would the property thus acquired be head?

Mr. Wiswall—The trustees would have to be incorporated, as in the case of the floating hospital of the Guild.

The caseon of the Guild relating to the permanency of

Mr. Wiswall—The trustees would have to be incorporated, as in the case of the floating hospital of the Guild.

The canon of the Guild relating to the permanency of the Master's position was then discussed, and the question asked, Does not this make the Master a sort of dictator?

Mr. Wiswall—Yes; but not more so than is any clergyman of the Episcopal chirch.

Mr. Scott then remarked that he thought that it would be advisable to after that canon in order to retain the confidence of the public. Mr. Wiswall replied that when it became evident that he was no longer useful in the position of Master he would resign, but that he had qualified himself for that position by 40,000 visits among the poor and left that he was useful in his position.

Mr. Kemp then took up the question of purchasing supplies, and went into it at considerable extent. It was shown that groceries, cereals and other articles had been bought from a large number of firms during the present winter to the smount of over \$17,000, for which cash was paid, it being the rale of the Guild never to run into debt. Mr. Wiswall, however, stated that once, through an error of judgment, the Guild purchased more goods than it had money on hand tepay for, and therefore was in debt to the firm of H. K. & F. B. Thurber, but when the matter was explained to Mr. Thurber he granted time to pay without charging any interest, and Mr. Thurber had since become a member of the Guild.

Mr. Faure then made a lengthy statement concerning the committees, and especially the Disbursing and Purchasing committees. He denied that the Guild was a one man power machine run by Mr. Wiswall, and stated that the different departments of the Guild are in the hands of business men who personally attend to the matters under their charge. Mr. Paure made a request that the investigating Committee decannd the attendance of the editor of the World, either by letter, by atterney or in person, to give the toundation of the matter was treet, had made a charge that the empty boxes and barrels were